

Message Text

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ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 ERDE-00 FEA-01
ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
EB-07 NRC-05 DODE-00 SS-15 /090 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3233

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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PASS ERDA WASHINGTON G HELFRICH

PASS ERDA GERMANTOWN FOR D BAUER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FR, TECH, ENRG

SUBJECT: COOPERATION ON HIGH TEMPERATURE NUCLEAR
REACTORS

1. RECENT DISCUSSION ON HIGH TEMPERATURE REACTORS (HTRS)
WITH CEA STAFF BROUGHT OUT THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:

2. THE FRENCH DO NOT CONSIDER THEMSELVES LEADERS IN THE
HTR FIELD AND WOULD AGREE TO PROGRAM OBJECTIVES SET BY
US AND FRG.

3. THEY FEEL FRG HAS A LOT OF "INTERNAL PROBLEMS" AND
ESTABLISHING A DETAILED PROGRAM OF COOPERATION EXCLUSIVE
OF THE AREA OF BASIC TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH, WILL BE VERY
DIFFICULT.

4. EDF WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE CON-
STRUCTION OF AN HTR PLANT FOR ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION.

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THEY COULD BE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE 15 PERCENT TO A
EUROPEAN PROJECT INVOLVING A NEAR COMMERCIAL PLANT WITH-
OUT RE-PROCESSING.

5. CEA IS EVALUATING NON-PROLIFERATION ASPECTS OF HTRS.
THEY HAVE UNDER CONSIDERATION VARIOUS PLANT DESIGNS
USING FISSILE MIXTURES OF U235, U233 AND U232. THEY

HAVE LOOKED AT A 5 PERCENT U235 DESIGN WITH U238 AND
CONSIDER THAT AT HIGH BURNUP THE PLUTONIUM GENERATED
WOULD BE ONLY HALF OF THAT GENERATED IN AN EQUIVALENT
LWR PLANT. THEY HAVE ALSO CONSIDERED A DESIGN WITH
20 PERCENT U235 AND THORIUM AND U238 FERTILE MATERIAL
WHICH WOULD GENERATE ONE-TENTH OF THE PLUTONIUM FROM AN
EQUIVALENT LWR.
GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 26-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition History: n/a
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